

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE VARIOUS

BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF MENDON,

INCLUDING REPORT OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

FOR THE

Municipal Year Ending March 7, 1898.

MILFORD, MASS.,
COOK & SONS, PRINTERS,
1898.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Treasurer of the Town of Mendon, for the municipal year ending March 7, 1898, respectfully submits the following account of his doings :

The Treasurer debits himself with the following items, viz :		
To cash received of the Treasurer of Mendon for the municipal year ending Mar. 1, 1897.....		\$1,594 87
To cash borrowed on three town notes.....		2,000 00
To cash received of State Treasurer one-half Cattle Inspection for 1896.....		20 00
To cash received of State Treasurer :—		
Corporation tax for 1897.....	\$98 55	
National Bank Tax.....	387 62	
State Aid, Chap. 301, Acts of 1894.....	429 00	
Military Aid, Chap. 279 Acts of 1894....	16 00	
		<hr style="width: 10%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> \$931 17
To cash received of State Treasurer, School fund.....	\$381 28	
To cash received of County Treasurer, dog fund.....	190 74	
To cash received of Collector of Taxes for the year 1896.....	555 60	
To cash received of Collector of Taxes for the year 1897.....	6,717 34	
To cash received of Edward L. Smith for rent of Town hall to April 1, 1897.....	75 25	
To cash received for 3 copies of Annals of Mendon.....	8 25	
To cash received of I. O. Rhodes for use of telephone.....	47 88	
To cash received of C. I. Barnes for use of hay scales to Feb. 11, 1897	11 40	
To cash received of Barnes Bros. for use of hay scales to Feb. 18, 1898.....	11 55	
To cash received of J. Byrnes, butcher's license.....	1 00	
To cash received of I. O. Rhodes for butcher's license.....	1 00	

To cash received of Walter A. Gaskill for butcher's license.....	\$1 00
To cash received of S. Warren Cook, for auctioneer's license.....	2 00
To cash received of Town of Blackstone, support of pauper.....	6 70
To cash received from Frank Taft, balance of account as Superintendent.....	11 29
	<hr/> \$12,568 32

The treasurer credits himself with the following items, viz :

By paying 90 Town orders.....	\$4,343 79
“ 3 Town notes.....	2,000 00
“ payment on \$1,800 note.....	500 00
“ interest “ “ “	56 94
“ “ “ three notes.....	36 69
“ School Committee.....	3,372 02
“ State tax.....	385 00
“ County tax.....	367 00
By cash on hand.....	1,506 88
	<hr/> \$12,568 32

GEO. M. TAFT,
Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

Dr.

To cash received of Nathan R. George, treasurer, for 1896 and 1897, deposited in Milford Savings Bank.....	\$1,025 86
Deposited in Worcester County Institution for Savings.....	360 64
To cash received as interest to Oct. 1, 1897, of Milford Savings bank.....	40 38
To cash received as interest to Jan. 1, 1898, of Worcester County Institution for Savings.....	14 40
Total.....	<hr/> \$1,441 28

Cr.

By cash paid for 12 orders.....	\$ 80 50
“ deposited in Milford Savings Bank	985 74
“ “ in Worcester County Insti- tution for Savings.....	375 04
	<hr/> \$1,441 28

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. M. TAFT,
Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of the town for the municipal year ending March 7, 1898:

INCIDENTALS.

A. A. Jenkins, services in criminal case.....	\$4 28
Charles H. Allen, repairing door of Town Hall.....	1 50
Henry Willard, repairs in fire department.....	14 00
“ wrench for engine.....	1 60
Geo. M. Taft, work in old cemetery.....	5 00
H. H. Lent, steel ceiling at Town Hall.....	69 15
W. H. Bennett, painting ceiling at Town Hall.....	11 55
H. W. Gaskill, services night of July 3, '97.....	2 00
H. C. Adams, insurance on town property.....	55 27
“ “ “	2 25
E. C. Kinsley, work at monument.....	2 40
“ services night of July 3, '97.....	2 00
R. C. Fish, returning four births.....	1 00
Williams Bros., coal for fire department	7 25
Emery & Wood, returning 10 deaths.....	2 50
Milo A. Gaskill, damages to wagon, Jan. 11, '98....	2 75
Liberty Freeman, cash paid.....	3 80
Clark Ellis & Sons, grate and ash pan for stove at Town Hall....	1 25
Edw. C. Kinsley, cleaning Town Hall	5 75
Albert W. Gaskill, work on tomb door.....	1 00
Geo. M. Taft, rent, care of fire at fire department...	16 30
I. O. Rhodes, operator, use of telephone, one year to March 1, 1898.....	60 00
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	\$272 60

TOWN OFFICERS.

Charles H Allen, auditor for 1896.....	\$6 00
Gilbert Gaskill, lockup keeper.....	5 00
Willard S. Wilcox, assessor for 1897.....	40 50
Henry W. Gaskill, assessor for 1897.....	38 50
C. A. Fletcher, assessor for 1897.....	35 00

Milo A. Gaskill, ballot clerk, March 23, 1897.....	\$ 1 50
Arthur V. Pond, ballot clerk, March 23, 1897.....	1 50
Horace S. Coleman, ballot clerk, Nov. 2, 1897.....	2 00
Milo A. Gaskill, ballot clerk, Nov. 2, 1897.....	2 00
Charles I. Barnes, constable.....	12 00
Thomas F. Kelly, constable.....	3 00
Horace C. Adams, election officer, registrar and cash paid.....	33 46
Horace C. Adams, recording births, marriages and deaths.....	15 90
George M. Taft, treasurer.....	50 00
George M. Taft, selectman and registrar	30 00
Edw. C. Kinsley, selectman and registrar.....	30 00
Liberty Freeman, selectman and registrar.....	50 00
Albert W. Gaskill, inspector of domestic animals to March 1, 1898.....	40 00
E. L. Smith, services as fireward.....	2 40
Edw. C. Kinsley, services as fireward.....	90
	<hr/>
	\$399 66

AUSTIN WOOD RELIEF FUND.

Cash paid out.....	\$80 50
Frank Taft, highway surveyor, for repairing roads and bridges.....	\$1,543 40
For clearing roads of snow.....	294 42
Old snow bills:—	
Frank A. Dewolfe.....	\$1 75
Thomas J. Lapham.....	2 80
Henry W. Gaskill.....	1 75
	<hr/>
	\$6 30

PRINTING.

Cook & Sons.....	\$61 00
G. M. Billings.....	8 50
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	\$69 50

TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Trustees, two orders.....	\$150 00
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MEMORIAL DAY.

Paid committee, one order.....	\$50 00
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CARE AND SUPPLIES OF TOWN HALL.

E. L. Smith, care of hall to April 1, 1897,.....	\$85 00
E. L. Smith, sundries for hall to April 1, 1897.....	16 57
Williams Bros., coal.....	44 38
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	\$145 95

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS, SCHOOL BOOKS, INCIDENTALS
AND APPARATUS.

Paid School Committee, one order	\$2,800 00
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SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Overseers of Poor, twelve town orders.....	\$900 00
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SOLDIERS' RELIEF, CHAP. 298, ACTS OF 1889.

For Mrs. Stephen H. Scisco, medical attendance furnished by Dr. J. M. French.....	\$12 50
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MILITARY AID UNDER CHAP. 279, ACTS OF 1894.

William E. Barrows.....	\$97 46
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SOLDIERS' BURIAL, CHAP. 395, ACTS OF 1889.

David A Kingman.....	\$35 00
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STATE AID TO PENSIONERS UNDER CHAP. 301,
ACTS OF 1894.

Abijah S. Claffin.....	\$32 00
Joanna Curley.....	48 00
Malinda W. Cummings.....	48 00
Rufus Hazard.....	48 00
George W. Scisco.....	48 00
Caleb V. A. Smith.....	48 00
Waterman Taft	32 00
Annette L. Weatherhead.....	48 00
Lewis H. Barrows.....	12 00
George Wilber.....	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$367 00

RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals	\$272 60
Town officers.....	399 66
Roads and bridges.....	1,543 40

Snow bills, 1897.....	\$6 30
Snow bills, 1898.....	294 42
Printing.....	69 50
Taft Public Library.....	150 00
Memorial day.....	50 00
Town hall.....	145 95
Schools	2,800 00
Poor.....	900 00
Soldiers burial, Chap. 395, Acts of 1889..	35 00
Soldiers Relief, Chap. 298, Acts of 1889.....	12 50
Military Aid, Chap. 279, Acts of 1894.....	97 46
State Aid, Chap. 301, Acts of 1894.....	367 00
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	\$7,143 79

The selectmen report the available assets of the Town, known to them, are as follows :

Due from collector of 1896.....	\$59 38
Due from collector of 1897.....	614 01
Due from state, aid to soldiers, chap. 301, to Jan. 1, 1898, 12 months.....	378 00
Due from state, aid to soldiers, chap. 301, to March 1, 1898, 2 months.....	59 00
Due from state, burial of soldiers, chap. 395, D. A. Kingman	35 00
Due from state, aid to soldiers, chap. 279, to June 1, 1897.....	48 73
Due from state, one-half salary of the inspector of animals and provisions, to March 1, 1898.....	20 00
Cash in hands of treasurer.....	1,506 88
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	\$2,721 00

The liabilities of the town, so far as known, are as follows :

Outstanding bills, estimated.....	\$55 00
Due town officers, estimated.....	135 00
Outstanding note.....	800 00
Interest on same to date at 4 1-2 per cent....	23 50
	<hr/>
	\$1,013 50
Net balance in favor of town.....	\$1,707 50

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEEMAN,
GEO. M. TAFT,
EDW. C. KINSLEY,

Selectmen of Mendon.

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

APPROPRIATIONS FOR 1897.

Support of schools.....	\$2,000 00
School incidentals.....	300 00
School text books.. ..	200 00
School apparatus.....	50 00
District Superintendent of Schools.....	250 00
Support of poor.....	800 00
Repairs of roads and bridges.....	1,500 00
Taft Public Library.....	175 00
Town incidentals.....	800 00
Interest.....	200 00
Soldiers' Relief.....	100 00
Suppression of gambling, liquor selling and vice.....	100 00
Memorial day.....	50 00
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	\$6,525 00

REPORT OF HIGHWAY SURVEYOR.

The highway surveyor submits the following report for the municipal year ending March 7, 1898.

He debits himself to cash received on 13 orders..... \$1,837 82

He credits himself with paying the following bills:—

Thomas J. Lapham, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	\$314 30
Frank A. Dewolfe, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	44 39
W. C. Robinson, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	28 24
Henry W. Gaskill, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	22 00
Edward H. Taft, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	24 35
Davis Hill, for labor with team and shoveling snow.....	37 66
Elias T. Bates, " " " ".....	30 79
Lyman E. Wheeler " " " ".....	89 40
Wilfred T. Claffin, for labor with team.....	180 60
Clarence Whiting " " " ".....	6 00
Z. R. Higgins " " " and gravel....	12 39
Michael Head, labor on repairs and shoveling snow..	212 86
Thomas H. Pierce " " " " ..	53 63
John R. Taft, for labor on repairs.....	91 80
Dwight Davenport, " "	54 90
S. E. Everton " "	50 85
Elden E. Barrows " "	9 00
Andre Southwick " "	2 00
John Wood " "	1 50
Frank Taft, as highway surveyor.....	341 35
George Whiting, for shoveling snow.....	2 55
John Kelly, " "	3 00
Genette Brown, " "	4 80
Florence Driscoll, " "	3 00
Jeremiah Driscoll, " "	2 85
Fred F. Brown, " "	2 85
Joseph Dudley, " "	5 03
William Daily, " "	45
Edward Cook, " "	1 35
Norman Wheeler, " "	1 20

W. S. Haynes, for shoveling snow	\$3 00
I. O. Rhodes, " "	53
Edward Dudley, for gravel and supplies	76 07
A. W. Gaskill, " "	44 65
Walter Thompson, for supplies	7 20
A. M. Seagrave, for gravel	12 00
Henry W. Gaskill, "	8 00
A. D. Davenport, "	4 78
Geo. Jennison, "	4 00
James Warner, "	3 04
J. H. Farnum, "	4 25
James R. Best, "	1 50
Gilbert Gaskill, "	80
Mrs. Annie Cook, "	48
Henry W. Brown, for repairs	6 19
John Barry, "	4 70
A. Morin, for repairs and supplies	5 17
Clark Ellis & Sons, "	14 12
John Thomas, "	2 00
F. Tompkins, "	25
	<hr/>
	\$1,837 82
Team work	\$544 65
Appropriation for general repairs	\$1,500 00
Amount expended for general repairs	\$1,543 40
" " " clearing roads of snow	294 42
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	\$1,837 82

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK TAFT.

Highway Surveyor.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

DR.

Balance uncollected Feb. 13, 1897.....	\$613 38	
Interest received.....	28 68	
	<u> </u>	\$642 06

CR.

By cash paid Treasurer.....	\$555 60	
Abatements.....	27 08	
Balance uncollected, Feb. 19, 1898..	59 38	
	<u> </u>	\$642 06

GEO. M. TAFT,
Collector of Taxes, 1896.

DR.

To taxes committed for collection.....	\$7,315 18	
Interest received.....	39 73	
	<u> </u>	\$7,354 91

CR.

By cash paid Treasurer.....	\$6,717 34	
Abatements.....	23 56	
Balance uncollected, Feb. 19, 1898..	614 01	
	<u> </u>	\$7,354 91

GEO. M. TAFT,
Collector of Taxes, for 1897.

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF THE POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending March 7, 1898.

John W. Barry, Dennis Holland, Mary C. Taft, Edna Allen, Edna French, Dora Barrows and child, the family of Albert W. Barrows, the family of Eli Gabry, Annie J. Bates, (divorced wife of John Bates) (having a settlement in Mendon,) Samuel E. Everton and family, (belonging to Uxbridge,) the family of James Meagher (to Blackstone,) have been wholly or partially supported. Rufus Southwick, a real estate owner in town, (but without other funds,) has been assisted to the amount of \$22.50 of which he has since paid \$10. The balance will be collected.

The Overseers charge themselves with the receipt of the following named funds belonging to the town :

Twelve town orders.....	\$900 00
Town of Uxbridge, March 6, 1897, (old bill)	41 02
Town of Uxbridge, Nov. 2. "	56 03
Town of Blackstone, Jan. 28, 1898.....	15 00
Town of Uxbridge, Feb. 9, 1898.....	12 00
Rufus Southwick, Feb. 10, 1898.....	10 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,034 05

The Overseers credit themselves with paying the following amount :

For support of :

John W. Barry.....	\$169 46
Dennis Holland.....	169 46
Mary C. Taft.....	135 00
Edna Allen.....	111 25
Edna French.....	2 45
Dora Barrows and child.....	58 40
Family of Albert W. Barrows.....	67 64
Family of Eli Gabry.....	61 70
Annie J. Bates.....	7 54
Samuel E. Everton.....	68 03
James Meagher.....	15 00

Gilbert Gaskill, 519 tramps.....	\$77 85
A. W. Gaskill, wood for tramphouse.....	10 00
Rufus Southwick, (temporary aid).....	22 50
George R. Ford, services.....	6 00
Gilbert Gaskill, services.....	6 00
Liberty Freeman, services.....	37 50
Cash on hand to balance.....	9 27

\$1,034 05

From the whole amount paid for the support of the poor.....	\$1,024 78
Deduct what was due for the support of the poor to March 1, 1897.....	\$97 95
What has been paid out for S. E. Everton and family.....	68 03
What has been paid out for James Meagher and family.....	15 00
What has been paid out for Rufus Southwick \$22.50 less \$10.00 returned.....	12 50
	<hr/> 193 48
	<hr/> \$831 30
Add what will be due for support of poor to March 7, 1898.....	131 36
	<hr/>
Cost of supporting the poor for the year ending March 7, 1898.....	\$962 66

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,
GILBERT GASKILL,
GEORGE R. FORD,

Overseers of the Poor.

Mendon, Feb. 16, 1898.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

DOGS REGISTERED IN 1897.

Balance from 1896.....	\$ 1 80	
84 male dogs.....	168 00	
11 female dogs.....	55 00	
	<hr/>	\$224 80
Registration fees.....	\$19 00	
Paid County Treasurer.....	204 00	
Cash on hand.....	1 80	
	<hr/>	\$224 80

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1897.

DATE OF BIRTH, 1896	NAME OF CHILD.	PARENTS.
Dec. 8, 1897.	Esther Louise Higgins,	Zoheth R. and Marie L. Higgins.
Jan. 14,	Marguerite Harrington,	Michael T. and Mary J. Harrington
Jan. 17,	Bernice Irene Munyon,	Albert E. and Mary L. Munyon.
Jan. 24,	Benjamin Henry Eldredge,	Alfred C. and Leaphie Eldredge.
Mar. 2,	Ernest Perry Wood,	Frank H. and Sarah J. Wood.
Mar. 14,	Gladys Irene Pearson,	Irving E. and Jennie E. Pearson.
Mar. 27,	Irving Chester Darling,	Floyd E. and Emma A. Darling.
Apr. 13,	Andrew Willard Holbrook,	Willard and Flora E. Holbrook.
May 3,	Lillian May Dewolfe,	Frank A. and Laura V. Dewolfe.
May 16,	Miriam Winnifred Alger,	Fred A. and Lena M. Alger.
May 17,	Male,	Illegitimate.
June 11,	Mary Ellen Brien,	George and Mary Brien.
June 22,	Melinda Mary Everton,	Samuel E. and Mary S. Everton.
Aug. 7,	Male,	George M. and Emma A. Taft.
Aug. 25,	Mildred Gladys Arrand,	Leroy R. and Annie M. Arrand.
Aug. 28,	Edith Ernestine Kinsley,	Percy T. and Jennie L. Kinsley.
Aug. 31,	Edith Evelyn Marie Hoberg,	John P. and Hannah M. E. Hoberg
Sept. 8,	Gordon Everett Clark,	Elton O. and Bessie W. Clark.
Oct. 7,	Gladys Mary Sumner,	Wilbur L. and Bertha T. Sumner.
Nov. 9,	Clement Morton Holbrook,	Morton A. and Cora B. Holbrook.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1897.

DATE OF MARRIAGE,	NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE.
1897.		
Jan. 23,	Roy Arrand, Annie May Kelley,	Hopedale. Mendon.
April 21,	Morton Allen Holbrook, Cora Belle St. John,	Mendon. Plainfield, Vt.
June 12,	Felix Bibeau, Marie Blanche Albina Benoit,	Mendon. Woonsocket, R. I.
July 3,	George Bertram Ambler, Mabelle Hall,	Mendon. Natick, Mass.
Aug. 4,	Timothy Raymond Scott, Edith Bennett,	Providence, R. I. Mendon.
Nov. 3,	James Newton Nutter, Grace Adams Andrew,	Mendon. Hopedale, Mass.
Nov. 25,	George Adelbert Fuller, Mabel Olive Barrows,	Mendon. Hopedale, Mass.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1897.

DATE OF DEATH,	NAME	AGE	RESIDENCE.
1897.		Y. M. D.	
Feb. 9,	Sarah M. Cromb,	71 7 6	Mendon.
Feb. 26,	William R. Barrows,	3 5 14	Mendon.
Mar. 8,	David A. Kingman,	67 7 1	Mendon.
Mar. 26,	Ann Chenery,	64 4 —	Leicester, Mass.
Mar. 29,	Daniel Coyne,	82 — —	Mendon.
June 21,	George F. Lowell,	60 5 28	Mendon.
July 11,	Nancy Aldrich,	73 8 11	Mendon.
Aug. 10,	(Male) Taft,	— — 3	Mendon.
Aug. 17,	Earl Avon Wilbur,	— 3 —	Mendon.
Aug. 26,	Erastus Hill,	84 9 25	Mendon.
Sept 7,	Andrew Willard Holbrook,	— 5 7	Mendon.
Sept. 11,	George W. Tucker,	81 8 —	Mendon.
Nov. 6,	Emeline M. Gunn,	66 — 24	Mendon.
Nov. 24,	Stephen Cook,	91 1 6	Mendon.
Dec. 30,	Frank H. Plummer,	49 7 10	Mendon.

The attention of parents and others is called to the report of births, marriages and deaths. If any errors or omissions are discovered, the town clerk should be notified and the record perfected. Blanks, for making returns of births, marriages and deaths can always be obtained of the town clerk.

Respectfully submitted.

HORACE C. ADAMS,
Town Clerk.

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The trustees submit the following report: The board reorganized April 17, 1897. They have but little to add to the information furnished by the report of the librarian, which follows. The annual examination of the books was made Feb. 8, current, and the books were all accounted for, and found in satisfactory condition. The library was reopened Feb. 12. The trustees have been so fortunate as to secure the services of Mrs. Sara F. Towne, as Librarian for another year. It is the practice of the trustees to keep only a small balance in the hands of their Treasurer; the unusual amount so held at the time of making this report, is to pay for binding books, etc., that were in the hands of the binder at that time.

During the past year three copies of the *Annals of Mendon* have been sold and one copy exchanged for a *History of Clinton, Mass.*

The thanks of our citizens are tendered to all who have contributed books, magazines or literature of any kind to the library during the past year.

The Trustees have put off the furnishing of additional shelf room, until it seems impossible to do so any longer. During the ensuing year some provision of the kind must be made.

The Trustees recommend the appropriation of two hundred dollars for the use of the library the ensuing year.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,
HORACE C. ADAMS,
HENRY W. GASKILL,
LIBERTY FREEMAN,
ELMER E. SHERMAN,

Trustees of Taft Public Library.

Mendon, Feb. 12, 1898.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY :

The Library was reopened Feb. 12, 1897. The whole number of books given out during the year was 3810. The largest number delivered any Saturday was 95 ; the smallest number 54, the average number 75.

The delivery by divisions was as follows : Agriculture, 8 ; Biography, 62 ; Fiction, 2979 ; History, 136 ; Poetry, 58 ; Miscellaneous, 35 ; Periodicals, 418 ; Religion, 4 ; Science, 39 ; Travels, 71.

The town has purchased 117 volumes ; 11 have been given by the Secretary of the Commonwealth ; 2 by the Bureau of Education ; 1 by the Hon. Eli Thayer ; 1 by the Interstate Commerce Commission ; 1 by the Smithsonian Institute ; making a total of 133. 4 volumes of unbound Century Magazines have been given by N. R. George ; 4 volumes of Harpers, and 4 of Outing unbound by J. A. George ; and 4 volumes of New England Magazine unbound by H. C. Adams. All these have since been bound. A number of pamphlets have been given. A copy of the Annals of Mendon has been exchanged for a copy of the History of the origin of the town of Clinton. Whole number of books in the library, 3685.

Respectfully submitted,

SARA F. TOWNE,
Librarian.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library for the year ending Feb. 8, 1898.

DR.

Balance from 1897.....	\$ 8 77
Cash received on two town orders.....	150 00
Cash received of Sara F. Towne, cards and fines.....	8 00
	<hr/>
	\$166 77

CR.

Cash paid G. M. Billings, for paper.....	\$ 7 75
“ Jordan, Marsh & Co., for books.....	17 67
“ W. B. Clark & Co., for books.....	67 35

Cash paid Sara F. Towne, salary	\$50 00
Cash on hand.....	24 00
	<hr/>
	\$166 77

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE C. ADAMS,

Treasurer.

Mendon, February 12, 1898.

Examined and found correct and with proper vouchers.

HENRY W. GASKILL,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,

Auditing Committee.

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Highway Surveyor, Town Clerk, School Committee and Collector of Taxes. Also the accounts of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library for the Municipal year ending March 7, 1898, and find them correctly kept and with proper vouchers.

CHARLES H. ALLEN,

Auditor.

Mendon, Feb. 21, 1898.

REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
OF THE
TOWN OF MENDON,
FOR THE
SCHOOL YEAR 1897-98.

MILFORD, MASS.:
COOK & SONS, PRINTERS, JOURNAL OFFICE.
1898.

ORGANIZATION OF
SCHOOL COMMITTEE, 1897-98.

HENRY W. GASKILL, Chairman,	Term expires 1900
ERWIN A. SNOW, Secretary,	“ 1898
LYMAN COOK,	“ 1899

SUPERINTENDENT,
ELMER E. SHERMAN.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT,
ERWIN A. SNOW.

TRUANT OFFICERS,
JOHN L. DAVENPORT, LYMAN COOK.
ELMER E. SHERMAN.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT.

TO THE CITIZENS OF THE TOWN OF MENDON :

The following report of the School Committee is respectfully submitted :

In comparing last year's report with this, it will be seen that the amount given as balance on hand at the end of the year and the amount given in this report, do not agree ; the reason is this :

When the report was made up last year the schools were not finished, but all bills for the year were paid except teachers, janitors, and for transportation of scholars, and we supposed we knew just what these would be ; but owing to sickness in the districts where the children are carried there were some days when there were none to carry. As no trips were made on these days we did not have them to pay for ; consequently, we had a few more dollars on hand than we expected to have.

At the time of making up this report the schools have two weeks more to keep. All bills for the year are paid excepting teachers, janitors and for transportation of scholars for these two weeks. This we have not given in detail but have included the amount that we have reason to expect it will be in this report, thus giving the cost of all the schools, except the High, for the full year of thirty-six weeks.

A change in the division of the terms of the High school while it gives only thirty-six weeks in the school year, brings thirty-eight weeks in the financial year. This we shall have paid for at the end of the year, and is included in this report.

The coming year the North school house should be painted, and some changes made in the outbuildings there, and new blackboards should be put in at the Albeeville school house.

We would respectfully refer you to the annexed report of the Superintendent on the condition and needs of the schools, which the Committee at its last meeting voted to accept and have printed.

We would respectfully recommend an appropriation of twenty-eight hundred dollars for schools, the same as last year.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

Balance of last year not given in detail in last year's report :

Cash on hand at time of making out report..... \$354 74

Teachers' wages :—

Elzura A. Chandler.....	\$41 67	
Parmelia S. Meserve.....	50 00	
Florence E. Snow.....	40 00	
Harriet Hanscom.....	30 00	
Mary E. Dudley.....	50 00	
S. Emma Dean.....	42 00	
Frank H. Lowell.....	8 00	
	<hr/>	\$261 67

Care of rooms :—

Parmelia S. Meserve.....	\$6 00	
Florence E. Snow.....	3 60	
S. Emma Dean.....	6 10	
E. A. Snow.....	12 00	
	<hr/>	\$27 70

Transportation of scholars :—

Alfred I. Barrows.....	\$23 00	
Geo. M. Taft.....	20 00	
	<hr/>	\$43 00

		\$332 37
Balance on hand.....		22 37
		<hr/>
		\$354 74

RECEIPTS.

Appropriations :—

Support of schools and transportation of scholars.....	\$2,000 00
Text books and supplies.....	200 00
Incidentals.....	300 00
Apparatus.....	50 00
Superintendent.....	250 00

Other resources :—

Balance on hand March 1, 1897.....	22 37
Income from state school fund.....	381 28
“ dog tax.....	190 74
Received from the State on account of Superintendent.....	416 67

Received for tuition	\$35 00	
“ rent of school room	1 00	
“ floor brush for hall	1 50	
“ books and supplies sold	2 97	
	<hr/>	\$3,851 53

EXPENDITURES FOR THE YEAR.

Teachers' Wages:—

Elzura A. Chandler, High	\$208 00	
Francis A. Rugg, High	291 70	
S. Emma Dean, Grammar	210 00	
Helen A. Tucker, Grammar	96 00	
Emily Albee, Grammar	14 00	
Nancy C. George, Grammar	8 00	
Hattie B. Johnson, Grammar	2 00	
Harriet Hanscom, Grammar	4 00	
Mary E. Dudley, Primary	340 00	
Parmelia S. Meserve, North	340 00	
Florence E. Snow, Albeeville	296 00	
S. Emma Dean, East	92 50	
Cora L. Edmands, East	149 50	
Frank H. Lowell, music teacher	68 00	
	<hr/>	\$2,120 03

Fuel:—

Williams Bros., coal	\$64 38	
“ “ wood	5 00	
H. W. Gaskill, cash paid, wood and fitting	14 25	
E. A. Snow, cash paid, wood fitting and shavings	9 12	
Lyman Cook, wood and fitting	11 00	
C. H. Ellis, wood and fitting	8 00	
	<hr/>	\$111 75

Care of rooms:—

E. A. Snow, Center	34 00	
Parmelia S. Meserve, North	17 00	
Florence E. Snow, Albeeville	9 00	
S. Emma Dean, East	3 25	
Cora L. Edmands, East	5 75	
Mrs. Willard Alger, cleaning Center rooms	7 50	
Mrs. Willard Alger, cleaning Albeeville	4 70	
Mrs. Head, cleaning North	5 00	
Lyman Cook, cleaning East	1 00	
	<hr/>	\$87 20

Text books and supplies:—

Amount purchased as per report of school book agent.....	\$184 51
-------------------------------------------------------------	----------

Apparatus:—

William B. Harrison.....	\$9 36
J. L. Hammett Co.....	4 20
E. E. Sherman.....	3 65
T. H. Castor.....	9 60
Ginn & Co.....	12 46
	<hr/>
	\$39 27

Superintendent:—

Elmer E. Sherman.....	\$500 00
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Transportation of scholars:—

Alfred I. Barrows.....	\$167 00
Geo. M. Taft.....	170 00
	<hr/>
	\$337 00

Incidentals:—

William H. Bennett, dressing black- boards.....	\$1 65
William H. Bennett, labor and material furnished.....	1 42
Geo. J. Perry & Co., liquid slating.....	3 00
“ “ brushes.....	5 75
“ “ book case.....	10 00
“ “ floor mats.....	7 20
G. M. Billings, printing.....	2 58
“ programmes of gradua- tion exercises.....	4 00
G. M. Billings, 1-3 binding of district report.....	1 00
J. L. Davenport, labor and material putting in slate blackboards.....	23 00
J. L. Davenport, labor and material furnished.....	2 00
J. L. Davenport, cleaning privy vaults..	1 50
John W. Estey, use of well.....	3 00
E. E. Sherman, traveling expenses and telephone message.....	1 78
E. E. Sherman, stationery, printing.....	3 00
“ express paid.....	15
“ stamped envelopes.....	3 63
Elzura A. Chandler, use of Simplex Printer.....	2 00
Rev. A. E. Winship, address.....	7 00
Cleveland Printing Co., diplomas.....	2 50

Joseph Dudley, services at church graduation day.....	\$1 00
F. H. Lowell, music for graduation.....	2 70
O. D. Case Co., slate blackboards.....	39 47
Clark Ellis & Sons, stove pipe and hooks.....	4 48
Clark Ellis & Sons, supplies used in repairs and in the school rooms.....	6 81
Avery & Woodbury, chairs.....	3 30
“ curtains and fixtures.....	1 20
Florence Driscoll, labor.....	7 20
J. A. George, putting up stage at church.....	1 50
Z. C. Field, lumber.....	5 44
C. I. Barnes, supplies.....	1 19
C. J. Bailey & Co., rubber tips for High school chairs.....	9 00
Mrs. Stenson, repairing flag.....	1 00
Jordan, Marsh & Co., bunting for flag..	1 50
H. J. Dearing, stove grates.....	1 80
A. W. Gaskill, grading yard, center.....	10 50
John Barry, labor.....	60
E. A. Snow, express paid.....	4 20
“ cash paid postage.....	3 15
“ “ freight and carting.....	2 63
“ “ traveling expenses.....	4 86
“ “ cleaning school yard.....	1 00
“ “ sundries.....	1 41
“ labor and man putting in blackboards, moving seats, fixing stove pipe, carting lumber, putting up shutters, etc., as per bills.....	9 10
E. A. Snow, cleaning privy vaults.....	1 00
“ “ taking school census.....	2 00
“ “ services as school committee.....	3 75
E. A. Snow, services as secretary school committee.....	10 00
E. A. Snow, school book agent.....	8 00
Lyman Cook, services as school committee.....	1 25
Lyman Cook, taking school census.....	1 00
“ labor and supplies.....	5 55
“ cash paid, fixing clock.....	75
“ sundries.....	88
“ use of well.....	2 00

Henry W. Gaskill, glass and setting.....	\$1 25	
“ services as school com- mittee.....	1 25	
Henry W. Gaskill, taking school census	2 00	
“ labor.....	7 40	
“ cash paid painting school house, Albeeville.....	32 51	
	<hr/>	\$291 79
		<hr/>
		\$3,671 55
Cash on hand to pay what will be due teachers, janitors and for transpor- tation of scholars at the end of the year, March 4.....		147 98
		<hr/>
Amount expended for the year.....		\$3,819 53
Cash on hand unexpended.....		32 00
		<hr/>
		\$3,851 53
To the amount expended.....	\$3,819 53	
Add the amount of text books and sup- plies on hand less than there were last year.....	16 32	
	<hr/>	
	\$3,835 85	
Less books, supplies, etc., sold.....	4 47	
	<hr/>	
Cost of schools for the year.....		\$3,830 38

RECAPITULATION.

Resources.....		\$3,851 53
Expenditures:—		
Teachers' wages, including amount un- paid.....	\$2,243 81	
Fuel.....	111 75	
Care of school rooms, including amount unpaid.....	91 40	
Text books and supplies.....	184 51	
Apparatus.....	39 27	
Superintendent.....	500 00	
Transportation of scholars, including amount unpaid.....	357 00	

Incidentals.....	\$291 79	
Cash on hand unexpended.....	32 00	
	<hr/>	\$3,851 53

HENRY W. GASKILL,
ERWIN A. SNOW,
LYMAN COOK,

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

School Committee.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT'S REPORT.

DR.

To books and supplies purchased:—

Edw. E. Babb & Co.....	\$17 40
Greenough, Adams & Cushing.....	8 52
Leach, Shewell & Sanborn.....	10 28
Geo. S. Perry & Co.....	20 09
J. L. Hammett Co.....	30 75
D. C. Heath & Co.....	7 34
University Pub. Co.....	1 58
Ginn & Co.....	62 96
E. A. Snow.....	2 88
H. E. Holt.....	7 50
T. H. Castor & Co.....	7 74
Hinds & Noble.....	1 20
E. E. Sherman.....	80
Geo. F. King & Co.....	1 32
J. B. Lippincott Co.....	90
William A. Davis Co.....	3 25

\$184 51

Books and supplies on hand March 1,
1897.....

96 44

\$280 95

CR.

By books and supplies furnished schools..	\$197 86
“ “ “ sold.....	2 97
“ “ “ on hand March 1,	
1898.....	80 12

\$280 95

ERWIN A. SNOW,

Mendon, Feb. 19, 1898.

School Book Agent.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

TO THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF MENDON,

Gentlemen:—The fourth annual report of the present Superintendent of Schools is hereby presented for your consideration.

The Committee organized at its first meeting with Henry W. Gaskill, chairman, and Erwin A. Snow, secretary.

The care of the school property was assigned as follows: West and Albeeville, Henry W. Gaskill; Center and North, Erwin A. Snow; South and East, Lyman Cook.

At a meeting of the District Committee, held in Mendon in April, Elmer E. Sherman was re-elected Superintendent of Schools.

No schools have been kept in the South and West buildings during the year, and the pupils in those sections have been transported to the Center schools. This has proved to be a very satisfactory arrangement.

Slate blackboards have been placed in the North school room, and the Albeeville school has been painted inside and out.

On account of the increased appropriation the school year has been lengthened to thirty-six weeks for all schools. The good results are not apparent as yet, but there is no question of the advantages which will accrue to the children of the town through this arrangement.

TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

The committee have endeavored to provide safe and comfortable transportation. The following extract from the 59th report of the secretary of the State Board may prove of interest:

"It [the school committee] has exclusive and absolute charge of the settlement of all details about transportation after it has once been authorized by vote of the town. * * * What is a reasonable walking distance the committee must decide for itself. * * * Transportation should not be used to reduce sturdiness, self-reliance and reasonable self-denial in boys and girls. It cannot be made equally convenient for all families. It often has to be partial for some while complete for others."

STATISTICS.

The table of statistics for the year ending January 1, 1898, records in round numbers the following facts:

Average membership of the schools.....	142
Average attendance.....	132
Per cent. of attendance.....	93
Cases of tardiness.....	239
“ excuses from school.....	370

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the same amount be raised and appropriated for the support of schools as last year, viz: twenty-eight hundred dollars (\$2,800.)

2. That a committee be appointed authorized to purchase a suitable lot of land near the “center” for the erection of a school house.

3. That the town vote to erect a four-room school building and choose a committee on the same.

4. That a suitable sum be raised and appropriated to cover the cost of land and building.

SCHOOL WORK.

It gives me pleasure to record the progress of the schools during the year just closed. The plans laid a few years ago are beginning to show results in better work by the children because of better preparation in the grades below. There have been few schools disturbed by changes in teachers, and our teaching corps has shown great enthusiasm and intelligent effort towards the study and training of children. The attendance and interest on the part of the children have resulted in a decided growth towards better things. The great majority of the children are stronger in mind and in character than they were a year ago. The teachers have striven, often under adverse circumstances, to attend to the heating and ventilation of their school rooms, and to gymnastics and other measures looking towards the bodily health of their charges.

In the general work much improvement has been made. In the teaching of arithmetic, especially in the lower grades, greater thoroughness in the fundamental processes, and a continuation of mental problem work into the higher grades, has been insisted upon.

A return to the old method of oral spelling, dividing into syllables and pronouncing, has been made. The written spelling has not been dropped; it only shares the time with the oral work.

A new series of vertical writing-books, published by Ginn & Co., has been adopted with good results. The vertical penmanship is recognized by the business world as a good thing. No writing with pen or pencil is required from the first year children. The forms of the letters are learned at the blackboard. During the second year the little folks begin with pen and ink, using the muscular movement, so called. Much attention is paid to movements in the earlier years.

A syllabus in natural science or nature study, has been prepared. The children are interested in the rocks and stones, the plant and animal life, all around them. The work is correlated with the language and drawing. It is just as easy for a child to write a composition upon the appearance, habits and life-history of a butterfly, a cornstalk, or a toad which he has observed for himself, taken notes upon, and read about, as it is to write upon "Vacation," "Spring," "The Beauties of Hope," etc. He sees more beauty in nature after he has studied form and color and sketched those natural objects which he has studied, or matched the colors in a flower or a piece of bark with his bits of colored paper. When he walks abroad he has something to see and think about and mean thoughts are crowded out. He is not like Goldsmith's character to whom

"A primrose by the river's brim,
A yellow primrose was to him;
And—it was nothing more."

SOME THINGS THAT INTERFERE WITH GOOD WORK IN SCHOOLS.

Illness is the only excuse for occasional absence from school which the state recognizes as valid. The public schools are supported by the town and the state, and the government claims in return the presence of the children in school. While most parents comply with the law in the main, and would send their children to school if there were no compulsion about it, many there are who thoughtlessly interfere with the regular work of the child in school by keeping him out on trivial excuses for a few hours or a day or two every now and then. The work of each class is carefully planned and moves forward day by day. No child can be absent from a single recitation without losing something which he ought to have, and which he cannot "make up." Again, promptness and regularity in business matters are essential to success. School is the child's business, and he should be trained to habits of regular and punctual attendance as a basis for future activity in larger fields. Let me urge upon parents and teachers a closer attention to this matter, that dismissals, tardiness and absences from school may occur rarely, and only when an absolute necessity exists therefor.

Lack of home study is a cause for failure in the upper grades. A short time should be devoted to study at home each day by children of good health in the grammar and high school grades, and the time should increase with the advance in age and grade. Only in this way can the best results be obtained from the course in school.

Another custom which seriously interferes with good work in school is the participation by children in the amusements of adults, especially in the evening. Nature demands for growing children plenty of sleep, simple food and simple pleasures. Evening entertainments furnish none of these, and nature expresses the outrage in disordered nerves and low physical and mental tone. It is easy to perceive when some "sociable" or other event has occurred the preceding evening from the restlessness, fatigue and consequent inability to perform the tasks of the day evident in those who have so dissipated. Nor is this evil confined to high school pupils, but extends to all ages, primary children included.

The massing of population in New England and especially in Massachusetts, into cities, large towns and villages, has given rise to a class called in common parlance, "hoodlums." Eminent men have been studying this condition and pronounce the existence of such a class in any town a serious menace to the morals and happiness of the community. Investigation has revealed that many of the perpetrators of the horrible murders and revolting crimes which have shocked New England during the last few years received their first lessons among the rowdies of some town or village. Nor is this class drawn from the meaner and less intelligent among the community, for if unrestrained, it often recruits its ranks from the children of respectable families. When a boy or a girl comes under this baleful influence, the tasks and pleasures of school and home become irksome and tame, false standards of life and morals are set up, evil habits are begun, and the efforts of teachers and of parents are often unavailing to check the downward course, and he or she becomes a dangerous person, or at best but a drone instead of an active, useful member of society. Many cities and towns of the middle and western states have a regulation known as the "curfew law" which reads something as follows: "No person under the age of sixteen years shall be upon the streets after eight o'clock in the evening unless accompanied by parent or guardian." This may sound like paternalism to some, but sensible parents intend to know where their children are, and what they are doing.

To the young person who has resources for employment and amusement within himself, the duties of school are met with zest and delight. Ideals rise before him of a noble and

useful career, and ambition urges him to make much of the opportunities which are his for self-improvement and preparation.

It is physical, mental and moral health which we desire for our children.

METHOD OF PROMOTIONS.

The question is frequently asked, "On what basis do you promote children from one grade to the next?" The answer in a single statement is, "on the basis of the child's daily work." The method is as follows: The teacher keeps a careful record of the child's daily oral and written work in each subject studied. These estimates are entered in blank forms furnished for the purpose, at least once a week throughout the year. These blanks are preserved and the succeeding teacher has a record of the child's work in the preceding grades. Notes are also made upon the child's natural tendencies, disposition and general deportment. The written work consists of exercises and answers to review questions given at convenient places in the subject. Twice a year the superintendent gives a written review. These count for no more than a similar test given by the teacher. They serve to indicate to the teachers some general lines upon which he wishes them to work, and to reveal some of the weak places which otherwise might escape notice. At the close of the year in June, these estimates are averaged, and if seven-tenths of the work has been accomplished by the child, and the teacher and superintendent think he has sufficient power to do the work of the next grade he is marked "satisfactory" on the year's work. In addition to the above, individual children are changed at any convenient time during the year, either to the grade above or below, whenever it is evident that the child in question is doing work unsuited to him, either from it's ease or it's difficulty. This occurs in cases of undue promotion, or when through previous absence from school, the pupil has reached a maturity which will enable him to do the work of the next grade, or unusual natural ability places the child ahead of others of his age. In the last instance it can be rarely done without forcing and consequent injury to the child's physical and mental welfare. In order to be eligible for an extra promotion the child must be able to average "excellent" in the daily work of the grade from which he is to be promoted.

TEACHERS' MEETINGS.

A meeting of all the teachers in the district was held in Hopedale, Oct. 22, 1897. An exhibit of school work was

made, and the teachers and friends were addressed by several speakers of note. Teachers' meetings have been held regularly at which directions for the work have been given and educational questions and methods discussed. A few friends have availed themselves of the invitation to be present and take part in the proceedings. They were cordially welcome and we should like to see their number increase. Parents are especially invited.

In closing I wish to thank the committee for their hearty cooperation and support, and to express my appreciation of the faithful work done by the teachers, and to acknowledge the many words of encouragement received from parents and friends of the schools.

Respectfully submitted,
E. E. SHERMAN,
Superintendent of Schools.

EDUCATIONAL LAWS IN BRIEF.

All children between 8 and 14, unless sick, feeble-minded, at an approved private school, or otherwise instructed in branches required by law, must attend the public school 30 weeks each school year. They must begin with the first month of the fall term. Two weeks absence is allowed. Penalty for each five days excess, except for sickness, \$20.

No child under 13 can be employed "at any time in any factory, workshop or mercantile establishment."

No child between 13 and 14 can be employed until he has attended school 30 weeks of the school year, nor without a certificate to that effect.

No child under 16 can be employed without a certificate from the Superintendent of Schools.

A child under 14 must present an employment ticket on applying for a certificate.

The father, if living and a resident, must accompany the child to sign the certificate of age; if not, the mother; if neither father nor mother, the guardian.

Proof of correct age must be furnished, if the age certificate does not agree with the school census.

Children must be vaccinated before attending school, but a certificate from a regular physician, saying a child is an unfit subject for vaccination, allows attendance.

No child can attend school from a household in which there is a case of small-pox, diphtheria or scarlet fever. Two weeks after the death, recovery or removal of the patient the child may return on presentation of a certificate from the attending physician or board of health.

"The last regular session prior to Memorial Day, or a portion thereof, shall be devoted to exercises of a patriotic nature."

A United States flag not less than four feet in length shall be displayed on the schoolhouse grounds or building every school day, when the weather will permit, and on the inside of the schoolhouse on other school days.

TEACHERS, DECEMBER, 1897.

SCHOOL.	TEACHER.	WHERE FITTED.	SALARY.
North,	Permelia S. Meserve,	Gorham Normal.	\$360 00
High,	Frances A. Rugg,	Brown University.	500 00
Grammar,	S. Emma Dean,	Wellesley College.	360 00
Primary,	Mary E. Dudley,	Mendon High School	360 00
Albeeville,	Florence E. Snow,	Mendon High School.	324 00
East,	Cora L. Edmands,	Bridgewater Normal.	252 00

	SPRING TERM. 13 WEEKS.		FALL TERM. * 14 WEEKS.		WINTER TERM. 10 WEEKS.	
	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.	OPENS.	CLOSES.
First Eight } Grades,	March 21	June 17	Sept. 6	Dec. 16	Jan. 2, '99	Mar. 10, '99
High School,	March 14	June 10	Sept. 6	Dec. 16	Jan. 2, '99	Mar. 10, '99

*The Fall Term has a recess of one week at Thanksgiving.

HOLIDAYS DURING THE TERM.

Labor Day, Washington's Birthday, Patriots' Day, Memorial Day.

STATISTICS.

From January 1, 1897 to January 1, 1898.

SCHOOLS.	Average Member-ship.	Average Attendance.	Per Cent. of Attendance.	Half Days of Absence.	Cases of Tardiness.	Cases of Dismissal.	Cases of Truancy.	Cases of Corporal Punishment.	Visits by Superintendent.	Visits by Others.
High	30.63	28.64	93.50	716	27	104	0	0	30	6
Grammar	28.27	26.48	93.66	627	33	93	0	2	30	21
Primary	29.33	27.61	94.13	602	19	57	0	2	18	50
North	17.95	17.07	95.09	308	56	60	0	1	31	31
East	10.30	9.70	94.09	213	29	12	0	5	19	46
Albeeville	25.42	22.24	87.66	1,095	75	44	1	5	21	25
Totals	141.90	131.74	92.84	3,561	239	370	1	15	149	179

Total enrollment of all the schools.....	179
Number under five years of age.....	0
Number between 8 and 14.....	110
Number over 15.....	34
Number of inhabitants in town May 1, 1897.....	887
Number of children in town between 5 and 15, May 1, 1897.....	138
Number of children in town between 8 and 14, May 1, 1897.....	85

COURSE OF STUDY IN THE MENDON HIGH SCHOOL.

QUARTER. †

FIRST YEAR.

A.		B.		C.		D.	
1	Latin 5,*	Algebra 4,	English History 4,	English Grammar 5.			
2	Latin 5,	Algebra 4,	English History 4,	English Grammar 5.			
3	Latin 5,	Algebra 4,	English History 4,	English Grammar 5.			
4	Latin 5,	Algebra 4,	Rhetoric 4,	English Grammar 5.			

SECOND YEAR.

1	Latin 5,	Geometry 4,	English Literature 4,	Book-keeping 5.
2	Latin 5,	Geometry 4,	English Literature 4,	Book-keeping 5.
3	Latin 5,	Geometry 4,	English Literature 4,	Book-keeping 5.
4	Latin 5,	Geometry 4,	English Literature 4,	Book-keeping 5.

THIRD YEAR.

1	Latin 5,	Physics 4,	French 4,	Commercial Law 5.
2	Latin 5,	Physics 4,	French 4,	Commercial Law 5.
3	Latin 5,	Physics 4,	French 4,	Commercial Law 5.
4	Latin 5,	Physics 4,	French 4,	Arithmetic 5.

FOURTH YEAR.

1	Latin 5,	Physical Geography 4,	French 4,	Civil Polity 5.
2	Latin 5,	Physical Geography 4,	French 4,	Civil Polity 5.
3	Latin 5,	Astronomy 4,	French 4,	Economics 5.
4	Latin 5,	Astronomy 4,	French 4,	Economics 5.

One period a week is devoted by each pupil to recitation in News of the Day and one to Rhetoricals.
 General exercises include reviews of Grammar School Branches and lessons in Music, Botany and Temperance.
 The Academic Course includes A, B and C.
 The Business Course includes B, C and D.

†The year is divided into quarters of nine weeks each.

*The figure following a study indicates the number of recitation periods a week.

GRADUATION EXERCISES.

Class '97, Mendon High School,

June Sixteenth, 1897.

PROGRAMME.

Prayer.....	Rev. L. G. Wilson
Chorus—"Spring Song,"	School
Essay—"Sky Wonders,"	Ida Maud Barrows
Essay—"Travel,"	Clara Winthrop Pond
Chorus—"Morning Invitation,"	School
Address.....	A. E. Winship, Editor Journal of Education
Presentation of diplomas.....	Supt. E. E. Sherman
Chorus—"Bright Pictures on Memory's Wall,"	School

CLASS OF 1897.

Academic Course.

Clara Winthrop Pond,

Ida Maud Barrows.

Class motto—*Nihil sed nobilissimum.*Class Colors—*Yellow and White.*Class Flower—*The Rose.*

ROLL OF HONOR.

The following named children have been neither absent nor tardy for the time specified:—

EIGHT YEARS.

Frederick A. Snow—*High School*.

FOUR YEARS.

Mabel D. Snow—*Grammar School*.

TWO YEARS.

Edward F. Driscoll, William H. Driscoll—*High School*.

John J. Driscoll, Rose E. Snow—*Grammar School*.

F. Merle Brown—*Primary School*.

ONE YEAR.

Grace E. Whiting—*High School*.

WINTER TERM.

Lillian Beal, Ida Darling, Nannie Taft, A. Everett Eldridge—*North School*.

Lillian Freeman, Bertie Moores—*Grammar School*.

Minnie Allen, Oliver Moores—*High School*.

Chester A. Holbrook—*Albeeville School*.

SPRING TERM.

Abbie Darling, Florence Aldrich—*North School*.

Carrie Beal, Ida Barrows, Clara Pond, Fred Davenport, Oliver Moores—*High School*.

Anna H. Pond, Annie Wheeler, Jennie Best, Carrie Wood, George Crompton, Bertie Moores—*Grammar School*.

Mabel M. Taft, Charles V. Driscoll, Roy A. Barrows, Burton G. Brown, Mabel L. Crompton, Louise J. Curliss, Clare Williams, Lillian E. Holt—*Primary School*.

Walter I. Coffin, Eddie B. Alger, Alice Valliquette, Flora Valliquette, Cora Valliquette—*Albeeville School*.

Lillian G. Worthen, Ruth L. Worthen, George E. Worthen—*East School*.

FALL TERM.

Florence Aldrich—*North School.*

Carrie Beal, Eliza Fletcher, Anna H. Pond, Geraldine Taft, Lewis Ford—*High School.*

Raymond Barrows. Carrie S. Wood, Charles Congdon, Carrie Wheeler, Louise Curliss, Louisa Congdon, Clare Williams—*Grammar School.*

Roy Barrows, Mary A. Brien, George H. Wilbur, Herbert E. Wood, Mabel M. Taft, Carl M. Taft, Carrie I. Cromb—*Primary School.*

Walter I. Coffin, Alice G. Coffin—*Albeeville school.*

Lillian G. Worthen, Ruth L. Worthen, George E. Worthen—*East School.*

TOWN WARRANT.

Worcester, ss.—To the Constable of the Town of Mendon,
in the County of Worcester, Greeting:

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the seventh day of March, next, punctually at 10 o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles, viz:

ARTICLE 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

ARTICLE 2. To hear the reports of the several town officers and committees and act thereon.

ARTICLE 3. To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

ARTICLE 4. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray town charges, and make appropriations of the same.

ARTICLE 5. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, or make any alteration in the same.

ARTICLE 6. To see what measures, if any, the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.

ARTICLE 7. To see if the town will vote to continue the High School.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to pay current expenses for the municipal year commencing March 7th, 1898, in anticipation of the collection of the taxes.

ARTICLE 9. To bring in their ballots "Yes" or "No" in answer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

ARTICLE 10. To see if the town will continue communication by telephone with Milford, as security against destruction by fire, or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 11. To see if the town will vote to raise the watering tub in the highway near the residence of Silas Dudley or act in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 12. To see if the town will reconsider its former vote or votes, and vote to post the town warrants in some place other than on the door of the schoolhouse at Albeeville, or take any action in relation to the same.

ARTICLE 13. To see if the town will vote to purchase a site and build a schoolhouse thereon, or take any action in relation thereto.

ARTICLE 14. To see what action the town will take in regard to the duties, liabilities and salaries of the Treasurer and Collector of Taxes.

ARTICLE 15. To see if the town will appropriate any sum of money for Decoration Day and select a committee to have charge of said appropriation.

ARTICLE 16. To see if the town will vote to accept the provisions of Chapter 374 of the Acts of 1895, and elect a single Highway Surveyor.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the following places in said town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting, viz :—At the post office, and on the door of the schoolhouse in Albeeville, and at the post-office in South Milford.

Hereof fail not and make due return of this warrant, with your doings thereon, to the Selectmen or Town Clerk, before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this twenty-third day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight.

LIBERTY FREEMAN,

GEO. M. TAFT,

EDW. C. KINSLEY,

Selectmen of Mendon.